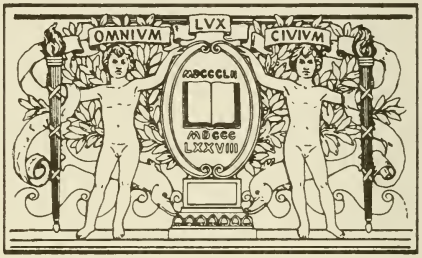

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THE

TALES

OF

PETER PARLEY

ABOUT

AFRICA.

WITH ENGRAVINGS.

REVISED EDITION.

PHILADELPHIA:
CHARLES DESILVER,
No. 253 MARKET STREET.
1856.

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JNO. W. DAVIS,
Clerk of the District of Massachusetts.

PREFACE

The following is the Preface to the revised edition of 'Parley's America,' and will explain the nature and design of the present work.

It is now several years since this little work was given to the public. It was my first adventure in authorship, and after passing through several editions, has returned to receive my final revision. I have bestowed upon it such care as an old worn out man may give; and as I must soon turn my back upon the world, I take my leave of my little first-born, forever. The public—I mean the world of children—have bestowed upon it their favor, and I ask no more.

If my health is spared long enough, I intend to revise the books I have written, and then I shall feel that the charter of my humble, but I hope not useless existence, is at an end.

It is proper to say, that this book is the commencement of a series, designed to give the first ideas of Geography and History. The second volume is about Europe; the third about Africa; the fourth about Asia. To these are added three others, Tales of the Islands in the Pacific Ocean; Tales of the Sea; and Tales of the Earth, the Sun, Moon and Stars.

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Good Will Club
No. 1 P. 3

PETER PARLEY'S TALES

ABOUT AFRICA.

CHAPTER I.

PARLEY GOES TO THE MEDITERRANEAN, AND SEES AN ERUPTION OF MOUNT ETNA.

I AM now going to tell you of what happened near thirty years ago. After my return to America, as I have told you in my tales about Europe, I set out in a ship for the Mediterranean sea.

This sea lies far to the east. To go to it, we must cross the Atlantic ocean. It lies between Africa and Europe. Africa is south of it, and Europe north of it.

Which way from you is the Mediterranean sea? Between what two countries does it lie? Which way is Africa from the Mediterranean? Which way is Europe from the Mediterranean?

The name of the ship I sailed in was the Swan. She was a fine vessel, and I was the second mate. Every ship has one, or more mates, whose duty it is, to assist the captain in navigating the vessel.

I entered the ship at New York, and we set sail. We had a fair wind, and in a few days we came in sight of the Bermudas, a group of small islands, owned by the British. There are now a good many houses, and a considerable number of inhabitants, on one of these islands.

We shortly after saw some of the Canary islands, where Canary birds first came from. These islands are very beautiful indeed, and very fruitful.

One of them called Teneriffe, has a very lofty peak. This peak is visible at a vast dis-

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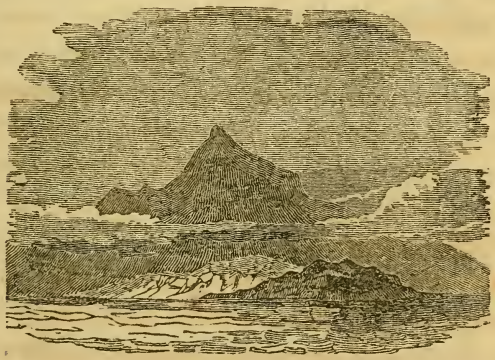
What was the name of the vessel in which Parley sailed to the Mediterranean? Which way did he sail? What group of small islands did he pass? What island did he pass after the Bermudas? Describe the Canary isles?

tance. It is so high, that it is almost always covered with snow. As I saw it from our ship, it looked like a tall thunder cloud, piled very high up in the air. Here you see a picture of it.

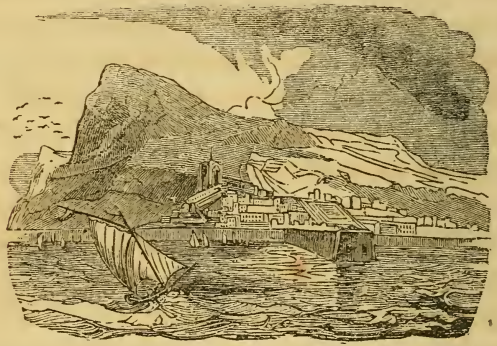


At length we came in sight of Gibraltar. This is a town at which there is a rock, 1500 feet high. In this rock there is a strong fortress. Gibraltar is in Spain, and forms the most southern point of Europe. The fortress

Describe the peak of Teneriffe? What of the town of Gibraltar?

has several thousand men in it, with a great number of cannon.

At the present time the fortress is in the possession of the British, and is occupied by British soldiers. It is situated at the entrance of the Mediterranean sea.



Near the town of Gibraltar, are the straits of Gibraltar. These straits consist of a narrow channel, where the sea flows from the Atlantic ocean into the Mediterranean. The straits are fifteen miles across at the narrow-

What of the fortress? What of the straits of Gibraltar?

est part. As we sailed along through them, I could see the land on both sides of us. On the left hand was Europe; on the right hand, was Africa.

We now entered the Mediterranean sea. This sea is 2000 miles in length. In some places it is two or three hundred miles wide; in other places it is much narrower.

This sea is surrounded with towns and villages, and a multitude of inhabitants. There is a great amount of trade or commerce, carried on upon this sea; here are vessels from all the countries of Europe, and they are always crossing it in every direction.

At length we arrived at Sicily. This is a large island, which produces oranges, grapes, and many other fruits. It also produces wine, which is made from grapes. The object of our voyage was, to get fruits and wine, to carry back to New York.

What of the Mediterranean sea? What of Sicily?

Our voyage to Sicily had been a very prosperous one. It is very seldom that a vessel crosses the Atlantic, without meeting some very rough weather. We, however, had met no storms; and in forty days after I left New York, I was in the island of Sicily.

Very soon after our arrival, we unloaded our ship, and began to take in our cargo. I wished very much to go to the top of Mount Etna, but we were so busy I could not be spared. Mount Etna is situated in the island of Sicily, and is one of the most celebrated volcanoes in the world.

A volcano, as you know, is a mountain that throws out fire, smoke, ashes, and melted lava at its top. The hole at the top through which these things are thrown is called the crater.

Though I could not go to the top of Mount

How long was Parley in going from New York to Sicily? What of Mount Etna? What is a Volcano?

Etna, I had an opportunity of witnessing one of its eruptions. It was truly terrible. One night, loud rumbling noises were heard in the mountain, like distant thunder.

Very soon, a blaze issued from the crater, which seemed to rise to the very clouds, and stand on the mountain like a pillar of fire. At the same time, clouds of black smoke rolled from the mouth of the crater. The blaze shed its light all around, and made it like mid-day.

After a little while, the blaze suddenly disappeared. It seemed to fall back again into the mouth of the crater. In an instant all around was darkness.

But very soon, red hot stones were thrown from the mouth of the volcano, which rose high in the air, with a whizzing sound, and then fell upon the sides of the mountain. Then a mass of red hot lava swelled to the

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Describe the eruption of Mount Etna, that Parley saw.

top of the crater, and gushing over it, ran down the sides of the mountain.

It rolled along like a river, making a dreadful sound. It spread over the land, and destroyed several villages. Some of the inhabitants fled before it; some were overtaken, and buried beneath the burning mass.

It was an awful sight, and made me shudder to witness it. The mountain continued to smoke for several days, but no more lava flowed from it. These eruptions from Mount Etna, have often taken place for thousands of years.

Within a few years, two towns in Italy have been dug from beneath the lava, which issued from Mount Vesuvius and overwhelmed them, nearly two thousand years ago. About this, I have told you in my tales of Europe.

CHAPTER II.

PARLEY SETS OUT TO RETURN TO AMERICA, BUT IS OVERTAKEN BY A STORM, AND SEIZED BY PIRATES.

Our vessel was soon loaded, and a few weeks after our arrival, we set out on our return to America. It was not more than two days after our departure, when we were visited by a storm.

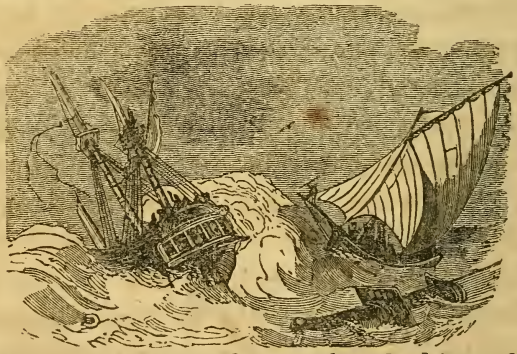
The wind blew very powerfully, and the agitation of the sea was dreadful. Our ship rolled violently, and in a few hours, two of our masts were broken off, and fell into the sea. The vessel became nearly unmanageable.

She also sprang a leak, and though we made the greatest exertion at the pumps, still the water increased very rapidly. Orders were now given to lighten the vessel, and a great

part of the cargo was immediately thrown overboard.

Night now came on, and the gale increased. Our large ship shuddered upon the waves, as if terror had seized the very timbers. Our captain, however, was a brave man, and he steadily exerted himself to save the ship.

He spoke cheeringly to the men, and assisted them with his own strength. But it was all in vain. The lightning struck the ship,



and set the sails on fire. The plashing of the sea soon quenched it, but the waves broke

over us, and swept away the greater part of our men.

Out of twenty hands there were now but five left in the ship. For myself, I never expected to see the light of another morning. Yet another morning came; and hope, which lingers till the last, revived.

The storm was over. The clouds rolled away, and the sun shone out, bright and clear. Our vessel however was a mere wreck. We could scarcely keep her from sinking, by laboring at the pumps. The waves also continued to roll very heavily, and they broke over the ship every few minutes.

In this desperate situation, we saw a vessel approaching us. Yet this vessel was more dreadful to our sight than the troubled sea. We knew it to be a corsair.

A corsair is a ship sent out to rob and plunder other vessels. We had heard many in-

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What is a corsair?

stances of vessels being taken, their cargoes seized, and the crew sold as slaves, or shut up in gloomy prisons.

As the vessel that approached us seemed to be small, we determined to make an effort to prevent ourselves from being taken. We armed ourselves with pikes and swords, and stood ready to meet the men from the corsair.

Their vessel came very close to us, but the sea ran so high, that it was a long time before they ventured to come along side of us. At length they came close to us, and the two vessels lay side by side.

Five or six men armed with swords, immediately jumped on board our ship. Three of them were instantly killed by our pikes, and two others were knocked down between the vessels. But other men soon followed from the corsair.

We struggled with them for a few moments,

What had Parley heard about these corsairs?

but our captain was shot with a pistol in the breast. I was stunned with a blow upon my head, and the remainder of the men, not able to resist, yielded to their fate.

The most valuable part of our cargo was now taken on board the corsair, and we were taken there also. Holes were cut in our vessel; she soon filled with water, and the waves yawning widely, received her into the bosom of the sea. The billows whirled and foamed for a moment over the spot, and then we saw our ship no more.

CHAPTER III.

PARLEY IS CARRIED TO TRIPOLI, WHERE HE IS IMPRISONED, AND MEETS WITH STRANGE ADVENTURES.

We soon found out that the corsair which had taken us, belonged to Tripoli. Tripoli is

To what country did the corsair belong, that captured the vessel in which Parley was?

a considerable country in the northern part of Africa. The principal town is also called Tripoli.

The people are a barbarous and cruel race, and at the time I am speaking of, they were engaged in plundering the ships of such other nations as came in their way.

They had already taken several American vessels, and we knew that some of our countrymen were shut up in their prisons. We of course had no other expectation, than to share their fate.

In five days we arrived at the city of Tripoli. We were treated with the greatest cruelty, and our captain suffered exceedingly from his wounds. We were taken ashore, and attended by soldiers, with dark skins, and strange dresses, to a large stone building.

This building was a castle. We were taken

What of Tripoli? What is the principal town in the country of Tripoli? What of the people? In what were they engaged? Where were Parley and his companions taken to?

into a dark room in this castle, and here we remained for four days, with no other food than bread, and no drink but water. We were then taken from our prison, and marched through the town, guarded by soldiers.

I remarked as we went along, that everything had a strange appearance. The inhabitants were as dark as our Indians, and their dress appeared very singular. The streets were also exceedingly narrow, and the roofs of the houses very flat.

At length we arrived at another prison, and here again we were shut up. I was myself put into a separate room. I had no intercourse with my companions.

My room was very dark; the light being only admitted through a long narrow hole in the wall. I had bread and water brought to me once a day, and these were my only subsistence.

How were they treated? What does Parley say of the inhabitants of Tripoli? What of the streets, and houses?

Here I remained day after day, and week after week. I knew nothing of the language of the country; and the surly man who attended the prison, seemed to have no more regard for me than if I had been a brute.

How heavy were the hours as they slowly passed away! I had no books to read, no one to talk to. I knew nothing of what was to be my fate, but I had reason to fear that I should be put to death.

But so weary was I of confinement, that I almost felt willing to die, if I could once more see the open sky, and breathe the free air, were it only for a few moments.

But weeks passed away, and no change happened in my situation. Day and night came, but all went on in dull and disheartening uniformity. I tried to amuse myself by devising means of escape. But the prison was of stone, and forbade any attempt to force a passage through the walls.

At length a spider crept into the little window of my cell, and began to make a net. I watched him carefully for a long time, and found great amusement in observing him.

He soon went away, but the next day, he came again; I caught several small flies, and gave them to him. This encouraged him to come, and very soon he took up his abode there.

One night soon after this, I thought I heard a noise at my window. I listened, and dis-

tinctly heard some one there. What this meant I could not imagine.

As I had no reason to suppose that any one would attempt to set me free, I fancied that it was evil, rather than good, that was intended.

In the morning I found that my spider was gone, and his web destroyed. I wept that this only friend of my solitude was thus taken away.

The next night I heard again a noise at my window. But I could not conjecture the occasion of it. Again the third night, I heard it, and imagined that I heard some one whispering to me, but of this I was not certain.

More than a fortnight now elapsed. The noise at my window, which had excited some little hope, was heard no more.

One night I dreamed that I was released from my imprisonment; that I had crossed the sea; that I had reached my native land that I was at my home; that exclamations of

joy at my return filled my ears; and while I imagined that I was kneeling down, to thank God for my deliverance, and a happy restoration to my family, I suddenly awoke.

For a time I could hardly realize where I was. But at length, fixing my eye upon the dim light that entered my little window, I recollected that I was in prison, and in the power of a cruel and barbarous people.

At this moment I heard a noise at the door, and distinctly heard the key put into the lock, and the bolt slowly and cautiously turned. The heavy iron door was then swung open very silently. I heard no step, but a hand was laid upon me, and some one said in a whisper, 'Follow me, and make no noise!'

I was very much surprised, but I did not hesitate instantly to follow. We passed out. The door was locked behind us, and we were on the point of leaving the spot, when a man who had been sleeping upon the floor,

sprang suddenly up, and lifted his sword to strike my conductor.

The latter, with the quickness of lightning, struck the man over the head with a stick, and he fell upon the floor. We then went through several narrow passages, and at length came to an open space, with high walls around it.

My companion clambered up this wall by means of a rope-ladder, and I followed. We then sprang into the street. We heard a noise behind us as if my escape was discovered, and an alarm given.

We heard several voices, and saw the glancing of lights upon the buildings. My guide quickened his steps, and turning and winding through the narrow streets, we were soon at a considerable distance from the prison.

At length we came to a house, which we entered. I was taken to a remote part of it,

How was Parley rescued from prison?

and told by my guide to remain, until I received farther instructions.

He then left me. I was in total darkness. Where I was, of course I knew not. Who had delivered me, or for what object I had been taken from the dungeon, I could not guess.

For several hours I remained in total uncertainty. At length a woman came to the room where I was, with a light. She first spoke to me in the language of the country, but I did not understand her. She then spoke to me in Italian.

Of this I knew very little, but I was able to understand, that I must remain quiet, and be assured that no harm was intended me.

In the morning, this woman again came to my room, and provided me with some food. She told me that it was necessary for my own safety and that of my deliverer, that I should

remain in my room, and by no means attempt to leave it.

In a few days, she said, he would return and explain all to me. In the mean time, she would do all in her power to make my time pass agreeably.

I thought it best to comply with these directions. My female attendant provided me with food, and gave me a good deal of her company. She behaved in a kind yet respectful manner, and seemed to be anxious in every way to make my situation agreeable.

I was soon able to understand a good deal of her conversation, and I learned from her many things respecting the country, and the people where I was.

Map of Africa.

CHAPTER IV.

A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF AFRICA.

I will now tell you something about the country I was in. On the preceding page there is a map of Africa. The shape of Africa is somewhat like that of a leg of mutton. The southern point, which is called the Cape of Good Hope, forms the small part towards the knuckle. At the north end you will find, on the map, the names of several places, as Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, and Morocco. These countries pass under the general name of Barbary.

Now Africa is an immense region, nearly southeast of the United States. From the most northern, to the most southern ex-

---

What is the shape of Africa? Where is the Cape of Good Hope? In what part of Africa are the four Barbary States? What countries are included in Barbary? In which direction is Africa from the United States?

tremity, it is five thousand miles; and it is four thousand six hundred miles wide, at the widest part.

It contains probably thirty-five millions of inhabitants, about as many as exist in the whole continent of America. These inhabitants consist chiefly of two races of men, Arabs and Negroes.

These races have mixed, and produced others, partly Arab, and partly Negro. They pass under different names, and are divided into a multitude of different tribes, and nations.

The inhabitants of Barbary are chiefly Moors, who are nearly the same as Arabs. Their skin is dark, like that of our Indians. They have a great many negro slaves, who are brought from the middle parts of Africa.

What is the length of Africa from north to south? What the width from east to west? What the number of inhabitants? Of what two races do the inhabitants of Africa principally consist? What are the inhabitants of Barbary? Describe the Moors of Barbary

Barbary is divided into four states or kingdoms; Tunis, Tripoli, Algiers, and Morocco Each of these States has a capital, or large city of the same name as the country

The people are Mahometans. They are great enemies to the Christians, and at the time I was there, it was a part of their regular business, to send out vessels upon the sea, to capture the ships belonging to christian countries.

South of Barbary, there is an immense desert two thousand miles in length from east to west, and eight hundred miles in width from north to south. People can only cross it by means of camels.

It is very dangerous to travel over this desert; for sometimes the wind raises vast clouds of sand, which bury unfortunate travellers beneath them. Beside this, there are many

What is the capital of Morocco? of Algiers? of Tunis? of Tripoli? What of the people? What was a part of the business of the people of Barbary when Parley was there? What of the great desert of Africa?

tribes of Arabs, who wander over the desert, and attack and rob every body they meet.

South of this great desert called Sahara, there are several nations of negroes who inhabit a fertile country.

On the western coast of Africa, from the river Senegal, which you will find on the map, to the Cape of Good Hope, there are many tribes of negroes. Here is the coast of Guinea, from which a great many slaves have been brought to America.

Toward the Cape of Good Hope are the Hottentots, a race of negroes, of which I shall tell you by and by. At the Cape of Good Hope, is a large town called Cape Town, inhabited by English people. There are also a

---

What tribes wander over the desert? What nations south of the great desert? Where is the river Senegal? Into what ocean does it empty? Which way does t run? What of the country between the Senegal and the Cape of Good Hope? Where are the Hottentots? What of Cape Town? In which direction is it from Tripoli? Point your finger toward Cape Town Toward Tripoli

number of small English villages, near Cape Town.

On the eastern coast of Africa are several tribes of negroes, of which the Caffrees are the most remarkable. They are said to be the best formed people in the world. As you proceed north from the land of the Caffrees you will come to Abyssinia. This is a mountainous country, inhabited by a very singular race of people.

The Nile, one of the most celebrated rivers in the world, flows through Abyssinia. It passes through Nubia and Egypt, and enters the Mediterranean sea at the eastern extremity.

Thus I have told you a little about Africa, so that you may better understand what I am

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Where are the Caffrees? Describe the Caffrees? Where is Abyssinia? In which direction from Morocco? From the Cape of Good Hope? Describe Abyssinia. What of the Nile? Where is Nubia? Where is Egypt? Which way is Egypt from Tripoli? From the mouth of the Senegal? From the Cape of Good Hope?

going to relate. I hope you will study the map very carefully, and see where every place is, that I have mentioned.

CHAPTER V.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY OF TRIPOLI.

I MUST now tell you a little more particularly about the city of Tripoli. It is a large city, and contains as many inhabitants as Boston. The houses are square, and but one story high. The roofs are so flat, that the people frequently walk upon them.

The streets are narrow, crooked, and sandy. Almost all heavy articles are carried from one place to another on the backs of camels, which raise a huge dust, as they go along the streets.

How large is the city of Tripoli? Describe the houses. The streets. How are goods carried from one place to another?

The city is surrounded by strong walls, with ramparts for defending it against the attacks of soldiers. It has two gates, by which people go in, and out of the city. One is north, toward the sea, the other south toward the country.

At the east end of the city, is the castle, in which the Bashaw lives. The Bashaw is a sort of king, and rules over the people. His dominions are quite extensive, and include Fezzan, which is a country several hundred miles to the south. It is situated in the middle of the great desert.

The Bashaw is generally a cruel man, and does what he pleases to the people. His castle is surrounded by a strong wall, forty feet high. He is very much afraid of being killed by some of his people.

He has a great many wives, who live in a

Describe the walls round Tripoli. The gates. What of the castle? What of the Bashaw? What of Fezzan?

particular part of the castle. They are very richly dressed with jewels, gold and silver ornaments, and are covered with perfumes. They are, however, shut up very close, and are no better than prisoners.

I have told you before, that the principal part of the people are Moors. These people do not wear hats, but large turbans like the Turks. They do not wear coats, but a large loose garment fastened about the waist. They also wear large trowsers, and yellow boots.

The women wrap themselves up in a cloth called a barracan, which covers the whole person. This they hold so close over their heads, as to conceal their faces, which it is not thought modest to expose to view.

The climate here is exceedingly hot in Summer. In Autumn there are powerful rains, which continue for several days and nights.

What of the Bashaw's wives? Describe the dress of the men in Tripoli. The dress of the women. What of the climate?

These rains after a short period stop suddenly, and not a drop of water then falls, for a number of months.

The people are Mahometans. As I have said before, they hate Christians. Their religion teaches those who believe in it, to despise all that do not hold to the same faith. It teaches, that no Mahometan is bound to be kind, just, or true, to those who believe in any other religion.

In Tripoli there are a good many Jews. As the Moors are very indolent, the Jews do a great part of the business of the place. They are however treated with the greatest contempt by the Moors.

A Moor will often spit upon a Jew, and pull his beard, and the poor Jew has only to submit. The Christians are also sometimes treated with the grossest cruelty.

What does the Mohametan religion teach? What of the Jews in Tripoli? How are Christians often treated?

A Moor pulling a Jew's beard.

CHAPTER VI.

ACCOUNT OF ALGIERS, MOROCCO, AND TUNIS.

HAVING told you about Tripoli, I will now tell you about Algiers. Algiers is an extensive country, and contains many inhabitants. It was under the government of a Dey, who

By whom is Algiers governed? What can you tell of the Dey of Algiers?

resided at the city of Algiers, which is the largest town. But the French took the country in 1829, and the Dey fled away.

The city of Algiers is as large as New York. The inhabitants and houses resemble those of Tripoli. The former are however less barbarous, and the latter handsomer and more convenient.

The roofs of the houses are flat, and communicate with each other, so that a person may walk the whole length of the streets, on the tops of the houses. Many of the people have little gardens on their houses.

The houses are all whitewashed, and being situated on the slope of a hill, the city at a distance, looks like the sail of a great ship.

Morocco is a very populous country, governed by an Emperor, who lives at the city of Morocco. This city has three hundred thou-

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What of the city of Algiers? Of the inhabitants? Of the houses? How is Morocco governed? Where does the Emperor live?

sand inhabitants. It is situated in a fruitful plain, and is surrounded by delightful groves.

The country produces oranges, figs, melons, apricots, peaches, grapes, pears, dates, plums, and pomegranates. There are a profusion of the most fragrant and beautiful flowers here.

Morocco is encircled by very strong walls for defence. The Emperor's palace is a splendid edifice. The city abounds in mosques. These are places, where the Mahometans worship.

Near the city is a range of lofty mountains whose tops are always covered with snow. This range is called Atlas. From it we derive the word Atlas, which is applied to a book of maps.

There are several other towns in the kingdom of Morocco. Of these, Fez is the most considerable. The buildings of this city are

How many people in the city of Morocco? What of the productions of Morocco? Describe the city of Morocco? What are Mosques? What mountains near the city of Morocco? What of Fez?

the most splendid in Barbary. It has many mosques, some of which are magnificent. The gardens abound in all kinds of delicious fruits. Roses and other fragrant flowers are so abundant, as to perfume the air to a great distance.

Tunis is the smallest of the four Barbary States. The principal city is Tunis. The country is governed by a Bey, who resides in the city of Tunis.

Near this city, are the remains of ancient Carthage. More than two thousand years ago, Carthage was very powerful, and sent an army against Rome, under the celebrated Hannibal.

It was built on three hills, and it was twenty-three miles around it. It contained seven hundred thousand inhabitants, and was defended by three strong walls, which encircled it.

What of Tunis? How is it governed? Where does the Bey reside? What of ancient Carthage?

This city, which flourished seven hundred years, was at last set on fire by the Romans, and burnt to the ground. It continued to burn incessantly for seventeen days. The remains of this mighty city are now hardly visible.

Thus I have told you of the four Barbary States. The climate is, on the whole, delightful, and the land is in general, very fertile. The most delicious fruits, the most fragrant, and beautiful flowers abound in this country.

Nature has done everything to make it one of the most charming portions of the globe. But the inhabitants are for the most part, cruel, and vicious.

At the time I was in Tripoli, which is almost thirty years ago, these Barbary states were subject to the Sultan of Turkey; but since that time, they have become independent.

What of the climate of Barbary?

They were then renowned all over the world for their piracies. Their corsairs were constantly cruising upon the Mediterranean sea, and they took possession of every vessel they could capture.

Since that time, these piracies have been stopped, but the people remain nearly in the same condition, though they have somewhat improved.

CHAPTER VII.

PARLEY FINDS OUT HIS DELIVERER, AND RECOGNISES AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE.

By this time, I suppose my little reader may wish to know the remainder of my own story. I hope the preceding description of Barbary will not be thought useless, for it is in some

degree necessary, in order to make the narrative of my adventures in Africa understood.

I had now remained more than two months, shut up in the house which I have before mentioned. I had as yet seen nothing of the man who rescued me from prison.

The woman who attended me would give me no hint, which in the least satisfied my curiosity to know who had thus interposed in my behalf. In truth, I was totally at a loss to conceive who it might be, or what motive had led the individual, to engage in an enterprise of so much hazard.

At length the time came when my doubts were to be satisfied. I was one night waked from my sleep by a man wrapped in a cloak, who told me to dress myself immediately, and prepare to accompany him.

This I did, and followed him into the street. We wound through the narrow crooked avenues, until we came to one of the

gates of the city. Here my conductor had some conversation with the keeper of the gate.

After awhile, we were allowed to pass through a narrow door at the side of the gate. We soon found ourselves upon a wharf. My guide flashed some powder in a pistol, and in a few moments a boat came stealing towards us upon the water.

This we entered, and turning our backs upon the city, rowed out into the harbour.

We had four oars-men, and we slid over the water with great swiftness. We proceeded in perfect silence for about three miles.

We then approached a small schooner which seemed to be waiting for us. This we entered. The sails were hoisted, and we put to sea. The night was clear, but the wind blew very fresh. The schooner was a fast sailer, and she seemed to glance over the waters, as a bird sails on the air.

At length the morning came. Nothing had been said to me, which enabled me to conjecture who my companions were. I had laid down on the deck of the vessel, and had fallen asleep. I did not wake till sunrise.

As I opened my eyes, they fell upon a man of a very swarthy countenance, whom I instantly recollected to have seen before. But where I had seen him I could not tell!

At length he spoke. When I heard his voice, I knew him at once. It was Leo,

whose life I had saved on my voyage to Europe!

The last time I had seen him, was in the mountains of Switzerland, as related in my tales about Europe. He was then at the head of a troop of mountain-robbers. Knowing his desperate character, I immediately conjectured he was now engaged in some bad enterprise.

I had no fear, however, for myself. He was evidently my deliverer, and I felt sure that his gratitude for my having once saved his life, was the cause of his generous conduct towards me now.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE STORY OF A ROBBER.

After a few inquiries, Leo took me into the little cabin of our schooner. It was

about fifteen years since I had seen him. He had altered very little. His complexion was remarkably dark; his eyes very black and piercing; his hair black, long, and curled over his ears and forehead. His appearance was altogether very striking.

He sat down, and began to speak of our first meeting, many years before. After a little while, I asked what had happened to him since I had seen him. He then related his history to me, as follows.

'After you saw me at the head of a band of brave fellows in the mountains of Switzerland, I continued to follow the profession of a freebooter. I always conducted my business with humanity.

'We took away the people's goods and money, who chanced to fall in our way, but we never committed any unnecessary cruelty.

'Our success was very good for a considerable time, but at length such loud com-

plaints were made to the government, that a body of more than a thousand soldiers were sent to take us. Our band consisted of but fifty men.

'We did not think it best therefore to meet these troops in the open field, so we retired to more secret places among the mountains, and hid ourselves during the day, in caves formed amid the rocks. At night we sallied forth, and fell upon such travellers, as chance threw in our way.

'But notwithstanding our utmost care, several of our men were shot, and others taken. A reward of a thousand dollars was offered for my apprehension. One of my men, tempted by this offer, led the soldiers of the government to the cave, where I was concealed.

'At first I determined to resist, and endeavour to cut my way through them. But a moment's reflection satisfied me of the folly of attempting it. I was taken, and carried to Venice.

'Here I was tried and sentenced to be shot. I was confined in a prison on the edge of the sea. I determined if possible to make my escape. I made various attemps without success.

'The day at length drew near, which was fixed for my execution. It was now midnight, and at sunrise the next morning, I was to be led out, and shot by a file of soldiers. I sat in my dark cell reflecting upon my coming fate.

'I determined to make one effort more for escape. I sprang up, and laying hold of one of the iron bars that were placed before the window of my dungeon, wrenched it with all my strength. To my surprise it suddenly broke, and I fell backward upon the floor, holding the iron bar in my hands.

'This gave me fresh courage. I seized another bar and strained it with the vigor of a lion. This also yielded, and there was

now space for me to creep out through the window.

'I looked down, and although the night was dark, I could see the deep water rippling at the foot of the prison. I was at least forty feet above the water, but I did not hesitate a moment. I let myself fall from the window, and plunged into the water.

Being a good swimmer, I soon rose, and swam to a wharf, at a considerable distance.

Here I took aboat which I found there, and stretched away upon the sea.

'I was afraid to show myself in Italy so I determined to quit my native country. After various adventures, I took passage in a ship, which I met with in the gulf Venice, and sailed for Egypt. Here I entered the service of the Pacha, as a mameluke.

CHAPTER IX.

LEO'S DESCRIPTION OF EGYPT.

'Egypt is subject to the Sultan of Turkey. The Pacha of Egypt governs in the name of the Sultan. The mamelukes are his soldiers.

'They are splendidly dressed, and mounted on fine horses. They are daring men, and desperate fighters. Most of them are from for-

To whom is Egypt subject? Who governs Egypt? What of the Mamelukes?

eign countries, and a large portion of them, like myself, are adventurers.*

'In this service I remained for a number of years, and was engaged in several battles with Buonaparte. You have no doubt read an account of the invasion of Egypt by the French some years ago.

'Buonaparte would no doubt have succeeded in conquering Egypt, had it not been for the English. The French fleet being destroyed by the English fleet, under Lord Nelson, Buonaparte left his army, which soon followed him back to France. Thus Egypt was freed from its invaders.

'I continued to remain in the service of the Pacha. As you have never been to Egypt, I will describe this remarkable country to you. It is divided into Upper and Lower Egypt.

*My little reader should recollect that I am telling of things that happened almost thirty years ago. Since that time the Mamelukes have been expelled from Egypt.

How is Egypt divided?

'Along the Mediterranean sea, the country spreads out into a level space of land, on which, as far as the eye can reach, you see nothing but a few date trees, a few palm trees, and groups of huts, built of mud.

'Near the place where the Nile enters the sea, it is called the Delta. This is overflowed by the Nile every year, and is one of the most fruitful spots on the globe.

'In Lower Egypt there are several great cities. Alexandria was built, there more than two thousand years ago, by a celebrated conqueror of ancient Greece, called Alexander.

'This place now abounds in the most astonishing remains of its former greatness. For the space of six miles, around the present town, which is much smaller than the ancient city, nothing is to be seen but fragments of stone which belonged to the ancient edifices.

Describe that part of Egypt that lies along the Mediterranean sea? What part of Egypt is called the Delta? What of the Nile? What of Alexandria?

'There are heaps, sometimes piled as high as a house, of pillars, columns, and obelisks. Many of these are beautifully carved.

'Among them is one obelisk cut out of a solid piece of stone, which measures seventy feet in length. It is covered with sculptured figures, called hieroglyphics.

'These hieroglyphics formed the ancient written language of the Egyptians. This obelisk now lies upon the ground. It once stood erect, and was called Cleopatra's needle, after Cleopatra a very celebrated and beautiful Queen of ancient Egypt.

'Near this city are several remarkable burying places, called catacombs. In these catacombs are found at this day, the bodies of persons who were buried two or three thousand years ago.

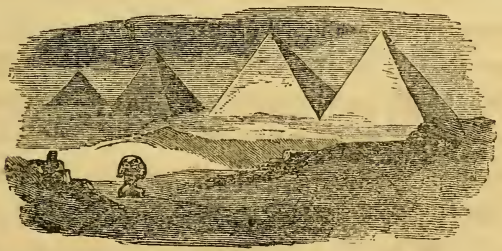
'These bodies were embalmed, and they still retain, the almost complete form and appearance, of the persons when living.

What of Cleopatra's needle? What of the Catacombs? What are found in the Catacombs?

'Cairo is another very remarkable city in Lower Egypt. The streets are crooked, and crowded with men, horses, camels, asses and dogs.

'These are continually bustling through the town, and raise an almost constant cloud of dust. Cairo is the largest city in Africa, and contains more inhabitants than Morocco.

'Upper Egypt lies to the south of Lower Egypt. In the midst of a vast sandy plain on the western side of the Nile are some of the most remarkable edifices in the world.



These are the Pyramids. There are a

What of Cairo? What is the largest city in Africa? Where is Upper Egypt

number of them, but the largest is near five hundred feet in height. It is built of large pieces of stone. Its form is square, and one of the sides, at the bottom, measures about seven hundred feet.

'When, and for what object, these vast structures were built, it is impossible to tell. Ancient authors, who lived two thousand years ago, speak of them as then the wonders of the age.

'They were as ignorant as we are, of the origin of these Pyramids. It is probable, that they are the burial places of some of the ancient kings of Egypt, and perhaps were erected even before the time of Pharaoh, who is spoken of in the Bible.

'It has been supposed that the Israelites during their bondage in Egypt, were occupied in rearing some of these vast structures.

What can you tell of the Pyramids? How high is the largest Pyramid? When were these Pyramids probably erected? For what object are they supposed to have been built?

'Still farther south, in Upper Egypt, and towards Nubia, the Nile flows through a narrow valley between two ranges of mountains. In this valley, are many remarkable remains of antiquity.

'The most wonderful of these, are those of Thebes. This city must have been more magnificent, by far, than any city now on the earth. Its ruins are scattered on both sides of the Nile, and cover a surface of nearly thirty miles in extent.

'The ground is covered with columns of immense magnitude, statues, rows of obelisks, and other works which fill the mind with astonishment. It is impossible to convey any idea of these magnificent ruins.

'This great city was of very ancient date. It is mentioned by authors who wrote more than two thousand years ago, as exhibiting the same spectacle then, as now. Still far-

What is evident from the splendid ruins that now exist in Egypt?

ther south, towards Nubia, there are other very remarkable remains of antiquity.

'It is evident that in the earliest ages, Egypt has been filled with people, who lived in splendid cities, who possessed a great deal of learning, and had the knowledge of many arts which are now lost.

CHAPTER X.

LEO FINISHES HIS STORY.

'But I am forgetting to tell you my own adventures. Somewhat more than two years since, there came to Egypt a man of the name of Hamet Bashaw. He is the second son of the late Bashaw of Tripoli.

'The present Bashaw, whose name is Joseph, caused his father and eldest brother to be put to death, and thus became Bashaw himself. Hamet being older than Joseph, had a right to succeed his father.

'To prevent his doing so, Joseph endeavored to take his life. Hamet heard of his intentions, and fled to Egypt. He was kindly received, and some schemes have been set on foot, to dethrone his brother Joseph and place Hamet at the head of the government of Tripoli.

'About six months since, I came secretly to Tripoli, as the agent of Hamet to promote these schemes. Appearing to have come on private business, I have had free access to all parts of the city, and nobody has suspected my motive.

'When you were brought on shore from your ship, I happened to be on the wharf, and saw you. I knew you instantly, and determined if possible to liberate you.

'I therefore took the greatest pains to find out the place of your confinement, and ascertain the means of setting you free.

'I at length contrived to get over the walls of the prison, by a ladder of ropes, and three

nights in succession I went to your narrow window, to contrive the means of your escape.

'Finding that nothing could be done in this way, I one night took advantage of the gaoler's being asleep, turned the key, and liberated you as you remember. I then placed you under the care of a woman from my own country, in whom I could place confidence.

'After this I was absent nearly two months, engaged in pursuing the object which brought me to Tripoli. My business being completed, I took you from your place of concealment, and brought you on board of this vessel, which was waiting for me.

'I am now sailing for Egypt, and if this fair wind continues, we shall be there in four days. When you arrive there, you can take passage in some vessel, and return to your own country.'

CHAPTER XI.

PARLEY TELLS ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS, AND HOW DECATUR AND TWENTY AMERICANS, BURNT THE PHILADELPHIA.

We continued to sail on our voyage with a fair wind. During the passage, Leo told me of some things which interested me very much. Before I tell them to you, I must go back, and relate some facts, that it is necessary you should first understand.

I have told you that the people of Barbary sent out many vessels, to seize upon the ships of other nations. Now, many of our American vessels went to trade in the Mediterranean sea, and several of these were taken by these pirates.

The crews were seized, put in prison, and treated with the greatest cruelty. Some of them were reduced to slavery, and made to labor very hard.

The sufferings of these unhappy Americans induced our government to send out some ships of war, under the command of Commodore Preble, not only to protect our vessels, in the Mediterranean sea, but to assist in effecting the liberation of our countrymen, who were in captivity. This took place in 1803.

One of the American vessels of war was called the Philadelphia, and commanded by Captain Bainbridge. One day, this vessel was chasing a corsair into the harbor of Tripoli, when unfortunately she struck the ground, and could not move.

Unable to escape, the vessel fell a prey to the Tripolitans. The crew were all taken, and shut up in prison. The vessel remained in the hands of its captors.

The Tripolitans soon got the Philadelphia afloat, and intended to make use of her, to

Who was sent to the Mediterranean sea, near thirty years ago, with a squadron of American ships of war under his command? For what was Commodore Preble sent with these ships to the Mediterranean?

carry on the war against our ships. There was a young man by the name of Decatur, among the Americans, under the command of Commodore Preble.

He commanded a small vessel called the Enterprise, and was a very daring young officer. He proposed to Commodore Preble, to go and set the Philadelphia on fire, and thus prevent her being useful to the Tripolitans.

This plan was approved of by Commodore Preble. So, Decatur waited till it was night, and then took with him twenty men, and concealed them in the bottom of a small vessel, and sailed towards the Philadelphia.

The Tripolitans on board this ship, saw the little vessel approaching, but supposing it belonged to their own people, and suspecting no danger, they allowed it to come close up to them.

What happened to the Philadelphia?

Suddenly, Decatur with his twenty men leaped upon the deck. There were fifty Tripolitans on board the Philadelphia. The men closed upon each other, and a deadly struggle followed.

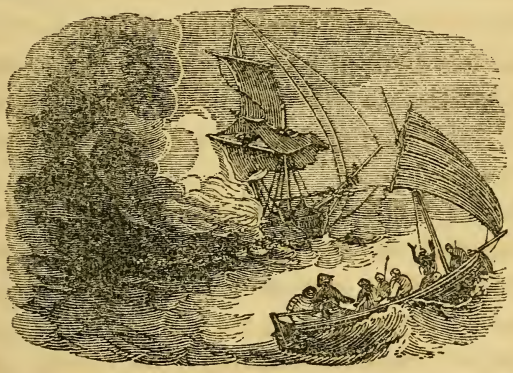
The astonished Tripolitans fought bravely with their sabres. At the first onset, Decatur was disarmed and thrown down. A Tripolitan lifted his sword over him, and was about to strike the fatal blow.

At this instant, one of Decatur's men saw his danger, and springing between him, and the Tripolitan, received the stroke of the sword on his arm.

Decatur rose, and fought like a lion. He was truly a brave man. His twenty Americans were all brave men. The Tripolitans fell before them, like grass before the scythe. Decatur set the vessel on fire, and not one of the fifty Tripolitans ever reached the shore.

Will you tell how Decatur caused the Philadelphia to be burnt?

The flames soon rose from the ship, and lighted the harbor far and wide. The people from the city looked on in fear and wonder, and Decatur returned in triumph to his vessel.



These were brave deeds, but many of the poor Americans were still in slavery. The Bashaw of Tripoli was so angry because the Philadelphia was burnt, that he was still more cruel to the American prisoners in his power.

The sufferings of these unhappy men, were

soon known in our country. The subject was a matter of universal interest. Our government was not idle.

They sent General Eaton to the Mediterranean, as an agent to assist in obtaining the freedom of our imprisoned countrymen.

General Eaton at length heard of the situation of Hamet, whom I have mentioned before. He went to Egypt to see him.

He proposed to Hamet to assist him, in dethroning his brother, provided Hamet, in coming to the throne, would liberate the Americans, and be at peace with America. To this Hamet agreed, and General Eaton immediately set about making arrangements to carry the project into effect.

For what purpose was General Eaton sent to the Mediterranean? Where did General Eaton meet Hamet Bashaw? What agreement did he make with Hamet Bashaw?

CHAPTER XII.

PARLEY ARRIVES IN EGYPT, AND GOES WITH GENERAL EATON'S EXPEDITION, ACROSS THE DESERT.

It was at this point of time, that Leo made his communication to me. He told me that General Eaton was at this moment in Egypt, and that in a few days he would set out with a number of soldiers, to make an attack on the dominions of the Bashaw of Tripoli.

He left me at full liberty, either to return directly to my country, or join General Eaton's expedition. At the same time, he strongly urged me to adopt the latter course.

He told me that the Bashaw of Tripoli was a cruel man, that he had murdered his own father; that Hamet was, by law, entitled to the throne; and that above all, in joining General Eaton's enterprise, I should assist in

liberating my suffering countrymen from captivity.

These considerations had some weight with me, but I did not immediately determine to follow Leo's advice. I chose rather to wait till I arrived in Egypt, and then make up my mind what to do.

In a few days we arrived at Alexandria, in Lower Egypt. On inquiry, I found that General Eaton was actually there, as Leo had said.

I also found several American seamen there, who, in the course of a few days, were to start on the proposed expedition. I very soon determined to accompany them. In less than a week, we were on our march westward, towards the dominions of the Bashaw of Tripoli.

As we were going to travel across a desert, General Eaton hired more than one hundred camels to carry the baggage. There were

very few Americans engaged in the expedition.

The whole number of persons was about four hundred. Some of them were on horseback, but the greater part were on foot. There were a good many Arabs and Moors, headed by Hamet Bashaw.

We marched two hundred miles over an uneven plain, consisting of barren hills of sand.

How many persons were engaged in General Eaton's expedition? Of whom did these four hundred persons consist?

Over this whole distance we met with not one human habitation. At length, we came across some tribes of Arabs.

The people were living in tents, and had some horses and cattle. We were the first Christians they had ever seen. They laughed heartily at our dress, which appeared to them very ridiculous. These Arabs had very dark complexions, and wore turbans like the Turks. They were all Mahometans, and like other people of this religion, thought Christians very much worse than themselves.

They believe that Christians will all be punished in another world, by being kept for ages in a dreadful fire. They were very anxious that I should become a Mahometan.

They seemed perfectly sincere, and no doubt really believed, that if I remained a Christian, I should suffer great torments in a future state.

Will you describe the people that Parley says they met with, after travelling two hundred miles?

I saw among these Arabs, several Ostriches, which they had caught when young, and rendered nearly tame. Ostriches are the largest birds in the world. They are only found in Africa, and a small part of Asia.

They lay their eggs in the sand, and the heat of the sun is so great, that the bird is only obliged to sit on them during the night, to hatch them. These birds cannot fly, but they will run as fast as a horse.

The Arabs had also beautiful Antelopes, that resemble small Deer. These creatures are very timid, and run with great swiftness. Many of them are caught by the Panthers and Lions, who lie concealed, and spring suddenly upon them, as cats do upon mice.

As we proceeded on our journey, we met with almost constant difficulties. Sometimes the weather was exceedingly hot, and we

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What can you tell about the Ostrich? What can you tell about Antelopes?

were all drooping with fatigue and thirst.

Sometimes, quarrels took place among the soldiers, and sometimes Hamet Bashaw and his men became disheartened, and proposed to return.

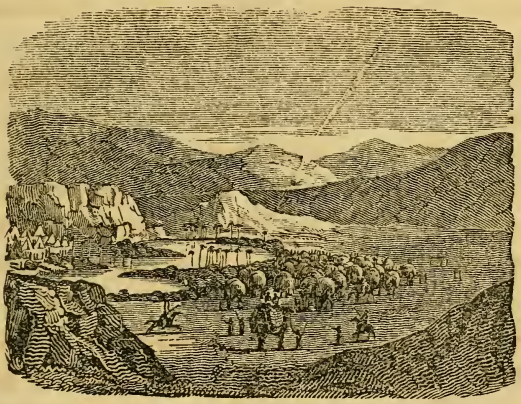
But General Eaton met these difficulties with the greatest courage. He cheered the troops, he inspired Hamet with confidence, and triumphed over every obstacle.

But at length, we were short of provisions. We were in a wide desert that produced almost nothing. We were surrounded by no other people, than the wandering tribes of Arabs, who kept out of sight during the day, but stole into our camp at night, and robbed us of our horses.

Our men were now dispersed in every direction, to look for herbs and roots for food. I went like the rest to find something to eat. I had gone to a considerable distance from my companions, when I happened to see between

the hills, a small low spot, where some shrubs were growing.

They were in a little valley, in which there was a pond. The place was quite green, and looked very beautiful all around it being quite desolate, and barren. A spot like t^{p} is in a desert, is called an Oasis.



Well, I no sooner saw this spot, than I ran to it, expecting to find something there, that would answer for food. What was my sur-

prise, to see four men start, with the suddenness of beasts of prey, from the bushes, and surround me! I saw at once that they were Arabs, and being totally unarmed, I had no means of defending myself. They instantly fell upon me, and began to strip me of my clothes, with surprising quickness.

They took off my hat and coat, and were proceeding to rob me of my other garments, when three or four of our horsemen accidentally appeared in sight.

They were coming directly towards us. The Arabs were alarmed, and throwing my hat and coat upon the ground, they left me, and sprang to their horses, which were at a little distance among the shrubs.

They mounted them at a single leap, and galloped away over the sand hills, disappearing almost as quickly as birds of the air. The swiftness of the horses, belonging to these Arabs of the desert, is truly surprising.

Notwithstanding all our researches, we were still short of food, and were obliged to kill one of our camels, which we found to be excellent meat.

We continued our march, and in two months, had proceeded six hundred miles over the desert. We now arrived at a tolerably fruitful country, and soon reached the city of Derne.

How long was General Eaton's expedition in crossing the desert? How far across the desert?

CHAPTER XIII.

ARRIVAL AT DERNE. THE SIROCCO. A BATTLE, AND SOME OTHER THINGS.

DERNE is situated on the sea, and is a large place, nearly equal to Tripoli in size. It belonged to the Bashaw of Tripoli, and was governed by a Bey. Here General Eaton was joined by several American vessels.

An attack upon the city was resolved upon. The vessels were to fire upon the town, with their cannon from the water, and General Eaton with the soldiers, was to attack it by land.

While preparations were making to execute these plans, we were visited by a dreadful hot wind, called the Sirocco. This wind filled the air with small sand. The whole sky was almost the color of copper.

The animals were gasping for breath. The

In what direction is Derne from Alexandria? What can you tell of Derne?

leaves, plants, and flowers, perished. It was truly dreadful. I was parched with heat, and my skin seemed on fire.

This lasted for three days, and then the Sirocco ceased. This dreadful wind is common in the deserts of both Africa and Asia, and often takes away the lives of men, and beasts.

The preparations being at length completed, the attack on Derne was commenced. The American vessels poured their cannon shot upon the batteries of the enemy, and upon the town.

The roar was loud and terrific. Our troops, too, assailed the town on the land side. We were opposed by a large number of Tripolitan soldiers.

A fierce battle followed. General Eaton was shot in the wrist, but he seemed to heed it not. He led us on through the thickest of the fight. It was a brave battle.

Describe the Sirocco. Describe the attack on Derne.

We had some Greeks with us, who fought by our sides, and they fought bravely. The enemy at length gave way. They fled before us, and we entered the town.

Derne was now captured. Joseph Bashaw heard of this event with dread. He feared that his brother Hamet would succeed in driving him from the throne.

He desired therefore to make peace as soon as possible, with the Americans. He sent to Mr. Lear, the American consul, and offered immediately to release the American prisoners, if General Eaton would cease to assist Hamet Bashaw.

Mr. Lear immediately agreed to this. General Eaton was consequently obliged to withdraw his troops from Derne. Soon after this, we all sailed for Malta, an island in the Mediterranean sea.

What effect had the capture of Derne on Joseph Bashaw? What did Joseph Bashaw do? What was General Eaton obliged to do in consequence of the arrangement between Mr. Lear and Joseph Bashaw?

Poor Hamet Bashaw, thus deserted by his American allies, had no farther hopes. He left his cruel brother Joseph to reign, quitted his country, and came to America.

General Eaton returned to America also, and after some years he died. He deserves to be remembered, as a man of extraordinary courage, energy, and perseverance.

Immediately after the arrangement was made, between Mr. Lear and Joseph Bashaw, all the American prisoners in Tripoli, were set at liberty.

Among these were my companions, who had been captured with me in the Mediterranean. After we were imprisoned in Tripoli, I had known nothing of their fate. How great was my pleasure on arriving at Malta, to meet them all there!

They had suffered a great deal during their

What did Hamet Bashaw do? What became of General Eaton? For what does General Eaton deserve to be remembered?

imprisonment, but were now very happy, in the prospect of returning to their country.

CHAPTER XIV.

PARLEY SETS OUT FOR CHINA. SOMETHING ABOUT CAPTAIN RILEY, AND GREAT STORIES.

A FEW days after I arrived at Malta, a large American ship, called the Kien Long, came to that island. She had been to Smyrna, a town in Asia, on the Mediterranean sea, to get opium. This opium, she was going to carry to China, and exchange it for tea, silks and other goods.

While she was at Smyrna, the plague was raging there. The plague is a dreadful fever, that is very common in all the large towns, on the Mediterranean.

Sometimes, many thousands of people die

What can you tell of the Plague?

of it, in a single city, in the course of a few months. Several of the seamen on board the Kien Long, took the disease at Smyrna, and died there.

When she arrived at Malta, she was therefore short of men. I was offered the situation of second mate on board of her.

This I accepted; and instead of setting out for home as I intended, I started in a few days, on a voyage to China.

We passed through the straits of Gibraltar, and stretched to the west along the northern coast of Africa. We soon passed the Canary isles, and at length came near Cape Blanco on the western coast of Africa.

It was on the coast near this Cape, that Captain Riley and his crew were wrecked, about ten years afterwards, that is, in 1815.

In what direction did Parley sail after he left the Mediterranean? What islands did he soon pass? Where was Captain Riley and his crew wrecked? In what direction is Cape Blanco from Tripoli? The Cape of Good Hope from you?

Captain Riley has written a book, giving an account of his shipwreck, and his suffering in Africa. This account is very interesting, but it has one fault, he is too fond of telling large stories.

He tells of a great many things, that are perhaps nearly all true, but yet his descriptions are so extravagant, that many people disbelieve his whole book.

Nothing is more unfortunate, than to get a habit of telling great stories. A person who has this habit, is very soon laughed at, and despised. Good people will place no confidence in, nor have any esteem for a person who tells great stories.

CHAPTER XV.

CAPTAIN RILEY'S SHIPWRECK.

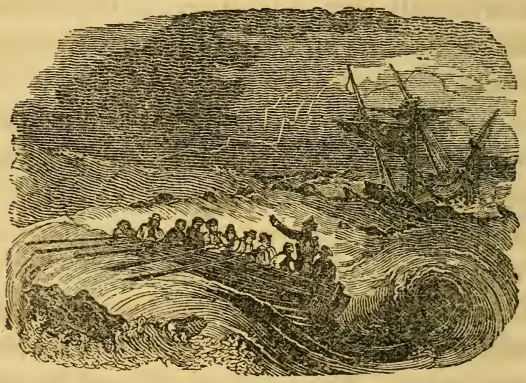
I WILL now give you an account of Captain Riley's adventures; for, as I have said before, they are very interesting.

Captain Riley was a native of Connecticut. He sailed in the brig Commerce from Hartford, and went to Gibraltar. From thence he set sail to go to the Canary islands.

When he came near these islands, the weather was foggy, and he could not tell exactly where he was. Being deceived by his reckoning, he went beyond these islands, and ran near to Cape Blanco, on the African coast.

A strong wind was blowing the vessel along, at a rapid rate, towards the shore. Suddenly Captain Riley heard a great noise in the waters. He instantly knew it was the noise of breakers.

Breakers are hidden rocks in the sea, over which the waves tumble with great violence Scarcely had he heard the roar of the breakers, before the vessel struck upon them.



Then the waves rose around the vessel, and beat upon her with a noise like thunder. The sea broke over her, and she was very soon almost full of water.

Expecting that she would be dashed to pieces in a few minutes, Captain Riley and

some of his men got into the boat, and set out for the shore, which was visible at no great distance.

The sea was very rough, and the boat was tossed about like a feather. The billows broke constantly over it, and almost drowned the people who were in it.

It was rapidly driven towards the shore, and soon it was thrown upon a sandy beach. Several of the crew were yet on board the ship, but by the greatest exertions, they were all at length landed on the shore.

Here then, on the desolate coast of Africa, were Captain Riley and his crew. Their vessel was on the rocks, and they knew she must soon go to pieces. Their boat was broken, so that they could not sail in it.

They were indeed in a distressing situation. But Captain Riley was a man of energy, and he determined to escape from this dreary coast, if possible. Accordingly, he and his

men first built a tent for shelter, and then began to repair their boat.

Their plan was to mend this, and when the sea was calm, to sail out upon it, and endeavor to find some friendly vessel, or attempt to reach some of the English settlements, which they knew lay to the south, on the coast of Africa.

The morning after they were wrecked, Captain Riley and his men were surprised to discover some strange looking persons, coming towards them.

These were an old man, with a hideous face, and long hair standing out in all directions, two frightful old women, and several children. These creatures were almost naked, and had a wild and savage look.

The shore was strewed with a great variety of articles, which had floated from the ship. The strange looking people fell to plundering these articles. They ripped open the

feather beds, and were amazingly diverted to see the air filled with feathers. They opened some boxes of silk handkerchiefs, and lace veils, and tied them about their heads, arms, and legs.

At length they went away. Night came on, and Captain Riley and his men slept in their tent, by the side of the restless ocean. In the morning, they again began to repair their boat.

But pretty soon, the Arabs came again. The old man had a spear now, which he threatened to throw at Captain Riley, and his men.

There were also several other Arabs with him, who had spears. They brought with them a number of camels also, to carry off the plunder.

Captain Riley and his men had no weapons for defence, and could offer no resistance to people thus armed. They therefore got into

their boat, which they had mended, and put off to their vessel, which still remained on the rocks.

CHAPTER XVI.

CAPTAIN RILEY'S ADVENTURES, AND SUFFERINGS.

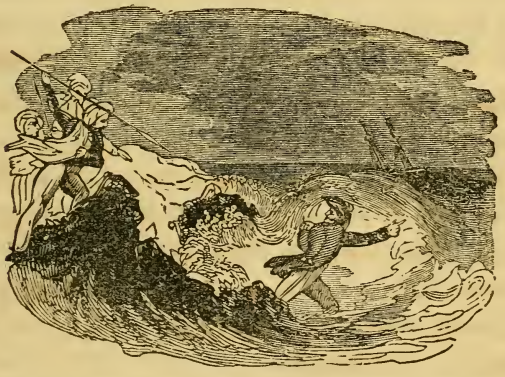
THE Arabs now loaded their camels with the spoil, and destroyed whatever they could not carry away. They then beckoned to Captain Riley to come on shore to them, and at length they persuaded him to come.

But pretty soon they seized him, struck at him with their daggers, and threatened instantly to kill him.

This was intended to frighten him. They then told him, they must have the money that was in the ship. Captain Riley made signs to his men, and they brought about one thousand dollars in a bucket, and gave to the

Arabs. But this did not satisfy them; they wanted more.

Not being able to get more, they again threatened to kill Captain Riley. Some of his men seeing his danger, came ashore to assist him.



But he found that his only chance of safety, lay in an attempt to escape. So he waited for a favorable moment. Then he sprang away from his enemies, ran to the beach, and plunged into the water.

He was pursued by three of the Arabs. They hurled a spear at him, but a wave at that moment rolled over his head, and saved him. He swam for his life. He reached the ship, and escaped his pursuers.

But one of his men remained on the shore. The disappointed savages now turned their rage upon him. They plunged a spear through his body, and he fell dead upon the ground.

The situation of the poor seamen was now dreadful. Their inhuman enemies were waiting on the land, to take their lives if they came ashore.

Their poor vessel had been so beat and pounded on the rocks, by the rough billows, that the water flowed through her, as if she were a basket.

Nothing was left to them but to get into their leaky boat, and push out upon the rough sea, with the probable chance of soon sinking

in the waves. This they chose, rather than venture among the cruel people, that occupied the shore.

Having got their boat ready, Captain Riley and his ten companions put off to sea. At first the ocean was tolerably calm, but by and by the night came on, and with it, a dreadful storm.

The peril of the poor seamen can hardly be described. Their boat was very leaky, and it took in so much water, that all of them were occupied in bailing it out with their hats, and whatever else they had, that would answer the purpose.

With all their exertions they could scarcely keep it from sinking. The night was very dark, and they could see nothing around them, save when the bright flashes of lightning, showed them the tumbling billows.

The roar of the ocean in a storm, is terrific. It has a fearful sound, even to one, who is

riding safely in a strong ship. But to the ears of men in an open boat, that bends and trembles at every shock of the sea, the uproar of the waters must be terrible.

The poor men had indeed no expectation that they should ever reach the land; yet a faint hope still remained, and still they continued to exert themselves for their deliverance.

The storm continued for several days. At length, they were short of food and water. Hunger and thirst soon pressed them very hard. They had only water enough to wet their lips. They devoured the remains of a pig, without being cooked, which was all they had, and gnawed the very bones.

Finally, reduced to the greatest extremity, and having been a week at sea, they determined once more to land. They approached the shore, and, borne along by the surf, were carried high upon the beach.

The shore was formed of lofty, perpendic-

ular rocks, at the bottom of which, was a narrow beach. Upon this, as night approached, they laid themselves down to rest.

Weary with exertion, and wasted with anxiety, they slept soundly till morning. They awoke very much refreshed. They then clambered over the rocks, and travelled towards the east.

The sufferings of the wanderers were now very great. I cannot undertake to tell you all that happened to them. Perhaps you will sometime read the whole story in Captain Riley's book. I can only tell you now, that after travelling awhile, they reached the borders of the great desert.

Here they met with one of those wandering tribes of Arabs, who roam over the desert, with their camels and flocks, living by pasturage, and plundering all who come in their way.

These Arabs seized Captain Riley and his men, stripped them of their clothes, and re-

duced them to a state of slavery. They then divided them among themselves.

The Arabs soon moved to the eastward, and proceeded to the interior of the desert. Captain Riley and his companions were placed on camels, but being destitute of clothing, and the heat being excessive, they suffered exceedingly.

Besides, they had no food but camels' milk, and hardly enough of this to sustain life. Their lips were also parched with thirst, and

such were their torments, that they wished to die, to be relieved from their misery.

At length Captain Riley and four of his men, were bought by two Arab merchants, who were met with upon the desert. These merchants set out for Morocco, intending to sell them there.

In this journey, the poor captives endured the greatest misery, from hunger, thirst, and fatigue. They had a great variety of adventures, and were once attacked by robbers.

But at length they reached Morocco. Here they found an English gentleman, who paid their ransom and treated them with great kindness.

Emaciated with fatigue and privations, reduced to mere skeletons, by every species of suffering, they now met with kindness and

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Where was Captain Riley carried to by the Arabs? In what direction is Morocco from Cape Blanco? Will you relate some of Captain Riley's adventures and sufferings, in crossing the desert?

care, which soon restored their health and strength.

Captain Riley returned to America, where he published an account of his shipwreck, and sufferings. Most of his men also found their way back to America.

CHAPTER XVII.

PARLEY CONTINUES HIS VOYAGE, AND TELLS ABOUT MUNGO PARK, AND OTHER TRAVELLERS, INTO CENTRAL AFRICA.

Thus I have told you of Captain Riley's adventures. If you will look on the map, you will be able to trace his route.

It appears that the western coast of Africa, north of Cape Blanco, is thinly inhabited by savage tribes of Arabs, who are ready to

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What of the inhabitants of the coast of Africa, north of Cape Blanco?

plunder such unfortunate seamen, as may be wrecked upon the shore.

Not satisfied with robbing them of whatever goods they may possess, they make slaves of them, and subject them to the greatest cruelty and hardships.

It appears that the Arabs are kind and hospitable to each other; but towards their enemies they have no mercy. They look upon all people, who do not profess the Mahometan religion, as wicked outcasts; and fit only to be made slaves of.

There are multitudes of these Arabs in the northern, middle, and eastern parts of Africa; and it is a part of their business, and one of their means of subsistence, to attack and carry off people whom they can overcome, and then sell them as slaves.

The negroes who are very numerous in the middle parts of Africa, are constantly hunted

What is a part of the business of the Arabs?

by these pirates of the land, and many thousands of them are every year, torn from their homes, separated from their friends and families, and carried away into distant countries.

There, deprived of their liberty, they labor for the luxury and enjoyments of rich persons, who buy them. They die in a land of exile, and never know what becomes of their children or their friends, whether they are living or dead, happy or unhappy.

But I must now tell you about my voyage. We continued to sail along the coast of Africa till we came near Cape Verd. A little west of Cape Verd, are the Cape Verd islands. These are sixteen in number, but several of them are only barren rocks.

St. Jago is the principal island. A great many vessels come to these islands, to get salt, which is formed of sea water, by the heat of the sun.

What of the Negroes? Where is Cape Verd? What islands near Cape Verd? Describe these islands.

ter we passed Cape Verd, we also mouth of the river Gambia. This river you will see laid down on the map.

It is a large muddy stream, in which there are a great many Hippopotami, and huge Crocodiles. On the banks, are thousands of Monkeys.

About thirty-five years ago, a famous Scotch traveller went up this river, into the interior of the country, to discover what sort of people lived there. His name was Mungo Park

Before that time, very little was known of this part of Africa. Many travellers had attempted to explore the country, but they were obliged either to return, without success, o- were killed before they got back.

Mr. Park found the country to be inhabited by a variety of negro nations. He had many curious adventures.

For what do vessels visit the Cape Verd islands? Where is the river Gambia? Describe this river. What famous traveller went up this river to explore the country, about thirty-five years ago?

One day, he went to see the negro king of Boudou, to whom he gave an umbrella, and several other things, with which the king was very much pleased.

He then began to praise Mr. Park's blue coat, and bright yellow buttons, and concluded by asking Mr. Park to give it to him, promising to wear it on all public occasions. So Mr. Park took off his coat, and laid it at the feet of the king.

After remaining a considerable time in these

Tell me something of Mungo Park's travels

countries, Mr. Park returned to England, and published an account of his travels. About ten years after, he again went up the river Gambia to explore the country.

This took place only a few months before my voyage to China. At the very time that I was sailing along the coast, Mr. Park was in the interior of the country, prosecuting his travels.

As he was one day travelling on horseback, he saw a lion lying by the road. His horse was frightened, but the huge beast lay still, and did no harm. You will find a picture of this incident on the next page.

In this latter expedition, Park was accompanied by nearly fifty Europeans, several of them soldiers, whose object it was to protect, and assist him.

He pursued nearly the same course as before, but he and his companions were beset with difficulties, and dangers, on all hands.

These they encountered with the utmost fortitude, and continued to proceed, till at length all had died by sickness, and other causes, but Mr. Park and four others.

Mr. Park and the Lion.

These reached a town called Boussa, a little farther east than Tombuctoo. As they were in a boat proceeding eastward, down

What can you tell of Park's second expedition into the interior of Africa?

the river Niger, they were attacked by the natives.

They defended themselves with the utmost bravery; for three days they resisted their enemies, but at length, overpowered by numbers, they all perished.

Not one of this whole expedition escaped, to tell their sad story. Their fate was indeed unknown, until about twenty years afterwards, when Captain Clapperton, another English traveller, reached Boussa, and learned the fate of Park, and his companions.

Notwithstanding the ill fate which had attended most of the travellers in central Africa, still others were found bold enough to venture into these regions.

About a dozen years ago, Major Denham, and Captain Clapperton, whom I have men-

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Describe Mungo Park's death. What can you tell of Major Denham and Captain Clapperton's travels? In which direction is Bornou from Tripoli?

tioned above, crossed the desert from Tripoli to Bornou.

Here they found a large lake called Tchad, upon which there were multitudes of birds, so gentle, that they would scarcely move out of the way, as Major Denham went near them.

They found Bornou to be a large and powerful kingdom of Negroes, where the horse-soldiers cover themselves, in time of battle,

What can you tell of Bornou?

with steel shirts, formed of many small links.

Captain Clapperton proceeded as far westward as Sackatoo. He found the country through which he passed very populous, and a part of it beautiful, and well cultivated.

These two travellers returned safely to England, and published a very interesting account of what they saw.

In 1825, this same Captain Clapperton made an expedition into central Africa, from

Where did Captain Clapperton go to? In which direction is Sackatoo from Tripoli? What other expedition into Central Africa, was made by Captain Clapperton?

the western coast. He proceeded from England by water to Bagadry, which you will find on the map.

Here he landed, and proceeded to Boussa, where, as I told you before, he discovered the fate of Mr. Park. From this place, he went to Sackatoo, which he had formerly visited. Here he was taken sick, and died. His faithful servant returned to England and gave an account of his master's travels. His name was Lander. He afterwards made two expeditions to the interior of Africa, and made some great discoveries.

Perhaps you are tired of hearing about travellers to Central Africa, but I must mention one more. This was a Frenchman by the name of Caillée, who has recently been to Tombuctoo, a large city inhabited by Negroes. You will find it on the map.

At what place did Captain Clapperton die? To what celebrated place in Africa has Mr. Caillee recently been?

A great many travellers had before endeavored to reach this place; but none has ever succeeded and returned, but Mr. Caillée. He is now in Paris, and has just published an account of his travels.

CHAPTER XIX.

PARLEY TELLS OF HIS VOYAGE, AND HOW THEY MET WITH A DREADFUL GALE OF WIND, OFF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Well, I must now go to my own story. Our vessel continued on her voyage. We

had fine weather, and a fair wind, and in a few weeks after we set out, we were near the Cape of Good Hope.

But as we were turning round that southern point of Africa, to proceed eastward, we were visited by a violent storm. I had been often at sea, and seen many gales of wind; but never before did I witness so violent an uproar of the elements, as then.

The sea did not rise in lofty billows, and sink in deep hollow vales between; but large masses of the sea were lifted upon the wind, and strewed in white foam upon the surface of the deep.

We took in the sails so as to present to the wind, only the naked hull of our ship, with her masts and rigging. But she was driven along, as swiftly as if she had wings.

The sea broke over us in a continued sheet, and our vessel leaned over so much, as to dip the ends of her spars in the water. Several

of the seamen were shaken from the masts into the sea, and disappeared forever.

It was at once a terrific, and sublime scene. The storm continued for near two days. Every effort was made by the captain and the sailors, to prevent accident.

But suddenly a heavy swell of the sea struck the vessel, and threw her over on her side. It was now a moment of great peril. The captain ordered the masts to be cut away. This was instantly done, and the vessel righted.

Again, she sat bravely on the water, and contended with the billows. A moment before, we had abandoned all idea of escape, now we were cheered with the hope of safely riding out the gale.

The storm at length abated. The clouds rolled away, the sun shone forth, and a dead

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Where did the Kien Long meet with a violent storm? What happened to the ship during the storm? Where was the ship taken to refit?

calm settled upon the waters. We took advantage of this moment, to repair some of the damage done to our vessel.

We also rigged up a temporary mast, upon which we hoisted a sail, and when the breeze sprung up, we laid our course for Cape Town, an English settlement, at the Cape of Good Hope.

In two days we arrived at that place, and here we supplied ourselves with masts, and other necessary articles to put our vessel in complete trim.

While at Cape Town, I had an opportunity of learning many things about the southern part of Africa, of which I will tell you in another chapter.

CHAPTER XIX.

PARLEY TELLS ABOUT CAPE COLONY, THE HOTTENTOTS, VARIOUS WILD ANIMALS, AND OTHER THINGS.

Cape Town was settled many years ago, by some Dutch people. They found the country inhabited by a race of tall, slender Negroes, of a very gentle temper, called Hottentots.

They took away the lands of these people

By whom was Cape Town first settled?

without ceremony, made slaves of some of the inhabitants, and drove the rest back into the country.

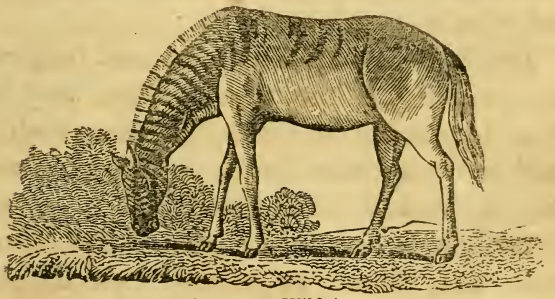
The colony continued to increase, and after awhile, it fell into the hands of the English, who have ever since kept possession of it. Cape Town is quite a considerable place. It has more inhabitants than Providence.

A great many of them however are Negro and Hottentot slaves, some of whom are very cruelly treated. Most of the slaves are Mahometans, because their selfish masters are not willing to have them taught Christianity.

Near Cape Town, there is a very remarkable mountain called Table Mountain. It is perfectly flat on the top, like a table, and one of its sides is cut down in such a manner, as to form an almost perpendicular face. This mountain is four thousand feet high.

How did the Dutch settlers treat the Hottentots? To what nation does Cape Colony now belong? What of Cape Town? What remarkable mountain near Cape Town?

To the north of Cape Colony, the country is inhabited by various tribes of Hottentots. Some of them are wild and savage; but for the most part, they are mild, gentle, and kind hearted.



Quagga, or Wild Ass.

There are many Lions and Elephants in these regions, as well as other wild animals There are Camelopards, Zebras, and Quaggas, a species of wild ass, which the Lion often makes his prey.

There are also vast companies of Antelopes,

How is the country, north of Cape Colony inhabited? What is the character of the Hottentots? What wild animals in South Africa?

sometimes ten thousand in number, seen to cover the plains.

The Lion lurks among these herds, and often springs from his ambush upon them. Sometimes he will put his mouth to the ground, and utter a terrible roar.

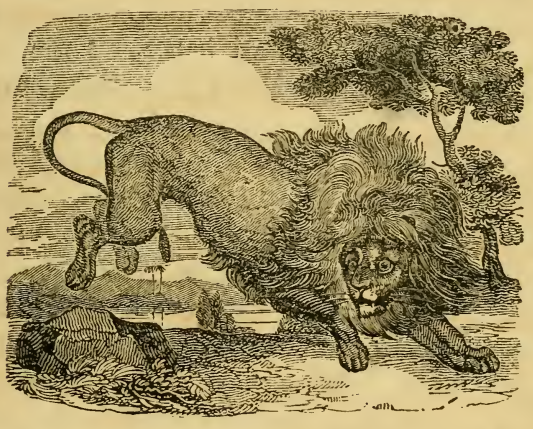
This frightens the Antelopes, and they run in all directions; not knowing which way the dreadful sound comes from, they often rush to the very spot where the Lion is concealed and thus fall victims to his artifice.

The inhabitants have a great many adventures with Lions. In general, these dangerous animals will let a man pass without attacking him; but if very hungry, they forget their usual politeness.

I have heard of a Dutchman by the name of Lucas, who was riding through the Hottentot country, when he saw a Lion at no great distance.

How does the Lion deceive the Antelopes?

Lucas expected that the Lion would let him pass; but instead of this, he leaped from his ambush, and came upon both horse and rider, like a thunderbolt.



The horse was instantly thrown to the ground, and the teeth of the Lion were fastened in his throat. Lucas scrambled out of the fray, and ran with all his might.

The Lion was too busy with the horse to

follow him. So he escaped to a house at some distance. After awhile he returned to the spot.

The Lion was gone, but the flesh of the horse was entirely devoured, and nothing was left, but his clean picked bones. Even the saddle had disappeared, and poor Lucas never found it.

On the eastern coast of Africa, near Cape Colony, is a nation called Caffrees. They inhabit a fruitful country, and are said to be the handsomest Negroes in the world.

They live in small villages; their houses consist of small half-round huts covered with coarse mats. They have large herds of cattle. They are fond of hunting, and are much devoted to a stiff ridiculous kind of dance.

Still farther to the north, along the eastern coast of Africa, there are other tribes of Ne-

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What of the Caffrees? What of the inhabitants to the north of the Caffrees?

groes, and several tribes of Arabs; but little however is known of them, and I shall not therefore undertake to describe them.

I have already told you so much about Africa, that you are perhaps weary of the subject. But to me it is an interesting part of the world.

Formerly, the accounts given us of the people of Africa, represented the negro races, as a stupid, debased portion of the human family, only fit to be the slaves and servants, of the rest of mankind.

But modern travellers, more worthy of credit, give more favorable representations. Both Denham and Clapperton found the Negroes of Central Africa more intelligent, and more civilized, than the world has been led to believe them.

The Caffrees and Hottentots are now known to be superior in every respect, to what their Dutch neighbors, used to say they were.

There is in truth little reason to doubt, that for the purpose of providing some excuse, for the barbarous and cruel treatment of the Negroes, the Europeans have been accustomed to misrepresent their character.

How much more delightful would it be, to see all christian people uniting with heart and hand, to spread the light of education, and religious knowledge, among the unfortunate millions of Africa, rather than to send people to force away the inhabitants, by violence and treachery, and then attempt to excuse this mean and dastardly conduct, by representing them as brutes, rather than men!

CHAPTER XX.

PARLEY TELLS ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS AND THINGS.

I have now given you an account of some of the inhabitants, cities, and countries of

Africa. I have also told you something about the animals; but of them I will add a few stories that I think will please you.

In some parts of Africa the woods are full of monkeys. These merry fellows live chiefly on the trees, and seem to be completely at home there. There are also great serpents, and many other creatures.

The following extract from the account given of Major Denham's travels in Africa, by my friend Solomon Bell, will be found interesting.

Very soon after leaving Lari, the travellers discovered the foot prints of elephants, among the forests. They saw places where these huge creatures had lain down, and crushed beneath their heavy bodies, young trees, shrubs, and underwood.

They also killed a monstrous serpent, eighteen feet long. They fired five bullets into him, but still he was moving away, when

two Arabs cut his head off with their swords. The travellers also saw herds of wild cattle, bounding over the hills like deer.

The woods at length became so thick, that the travellers could hardly find a clear place to encamp in. In the woods, wild animals seemed to abound. There were many beautiful birds, and among them wild Guinea fowls.

There were many monkeys, who leaped, frisked, and chattered at the travellers. One of these was so impudent, that they pursued him for half a mile. He did not run straight forward, but jumped and bounded about, constantly looking back over his shoulder at his pursuers. But they could not catch this lively fellow.

The travellers having stopped at a little negro town called Woodie, Major Denham went into the woods, accompanied by an Arab, in search of game. At length they saw

a drove of more than one hundred and fifty elephants, feeding upon the grass. They did not think it worth while to disturb these huge beasts; they therefore left the elephants, and went in pursuit of some antelopes; but these swift animals kept out of their way.

One night, as the travellers were encamped in the desert, the wild beasts came around them, and made a dreadful howling. They kept fires the whole night, to scare them away; but, notwithstanding all this, one of the camels was nearly devoured by a lion, and the hyenas finished what the lion left.

One day, Major Denham gained permission of the Sheik, to make an excursion to Lake Tchad. He was attended by some of the Sheik's people. They found a multitude of beautiful birds near the lake, as well as many antelopes. They also saw a drove of forty elephants. Three of them were grazing near the water. Major Denham and his attend-

ants approached them very closely. At first the elephants paid but little attention to them, but by and by they began to move off, uttering a loud roar which shook the earth under their feet.

One of them was a very large one, at least sixteen feet high. A negro hurled a spear at him, which struck him near the tail. This seemed to hurt him about as much as it would to prick your finger with a pin. He threw up his proboscis, and discharged a quantity of sand in the faces of his pursuers, which nearly blinded Major Denham.

Major Denham fired several balls into his skin, which seemed to hurt him no more than the bite of a fly. Away he went, and no more was heard of him. By and by, eight elephants were seen coming towards the party. They immediately set out to meet them.

The elephants did not turn their backs and run away, until several spears had been

nurled at them, and several bullets had been shot. At length, they moved majestically away. On their backs were several small birds resembling thrushes. They are said to be very useful to the elephant in clearing parts of his skin of vermin, which he cannot reach either with his tail or his proboscis.

One night, as they were travelling, Major Denham saw several panthers; but they ran off very swiftly, twisting their long tails in the air. By and by, they saw another panther. He had just killed a negro, whose body was found. The animal had sucked his blood, and was so full that he could not run fast. One of the Arabs hurled a spear at him, which went through his neck.

The huge beast rolled over, broke the spear, and ran away with the shaft in his body. Another man now rode close to the panther, and struck him through the body with another spear. The panther was in the very act of

springing upon his pursuer, when an Arab shot him through the head, and killed him on the spot.

These animals, as well as leopards, are very common in this part of the country. They are sly animals, and generally spring upon their prey from behind. They will seldom attack a man, but often watch for little negro children, in the neighbourhood of villages. These they sometimes kill. They eat the flesh of young animals, but only suck the blood of old ones.

One day, as they were passing along the borders of a lake, at sunrise, with a negro army, the hippopotami, which are nearly as large as elephants, put their heads out of the water, to hear the drums. So pleased were they with the music, that they followed the drummers the whole length of the lake, sometimes coming very near the shore, and spouting forth great columns of water.

On his way back to Kouka, Major Denham had the pleasure of seeing three camelopards. These are very singular animals. There are some of them sixteen feet high, and they are the tallest animals known. They feed upon the branches of trees. They possess long slender tongues, which are almost as useful as the trunk of an elephant. Major Denham chased these animals for a considerable time, but could not overtake them.

It must be a very pleasant thing to travel in a country, where one meets with such strange things. But as every body cannot travel in Africa, they must be content to hear other people tell stories about it.

You must remember that it is a good many years since I was in Africa. But within a very short time, Mr. Macomber has been in Southern Africa, to catch wild beasts. He has been very successful, and has sent home some beautiful zebras, and quaggas, and gnoos,

and hyenas, and pelicans, and other curious creatures.

These are kept in cages, and are taken about the country to be looked at. It is a pleasant and useful thing to go and examine these animals; and I advise all my young friends to lose no good opportunity of taking a peep at them.

CHAPTER XXII.

PARLEY TELLS OF CAILLE'S TRAVELS TO TIMBUCTOO: CONCLUSION.

I have already mentioned the travels of a Frenchman, by the name of Caillé, who lately went to the great city of Timbuctoo. But I am sure you will like to hear his story more particularly.

He was born in France in 1800; and as he read a great many books of travels when he was a boy, he formed a strong desire to be-

come a traveller himself. He was so much captivated with Mungo Park's narratives, that he resolved to make his way into the regions to which they relate, and proceed, if possible, to Timbuctoo.

At a very early age, he set off for the western coast of Africa. But various circumstances prevented his fulfilling his grand design until 1825. In April of that year, he proceeded to Kakondy, a negro town on the river Nunez, not far from the sea. At this place, caravans are constantly arriving from the interior of Africa, and others setting out on their return.

These caravans come to trade with the various English and French settlements on the western coast of Africa. They bring gold dust, bees' wax, gum arabic, gum senegal, ivory, skins of wild animals, and other things; and get in exchange, fire arms, gunpowder, spirits, cotton goods, and trinkets of various sorts.

Mr. Caillié attached himself to a small caravan that was going to Timbuctoo. As he knew that the various tribes of people through which he was to pass, were Mahometans, and hated the Christians, he disguised himself as an Arab, or Mahometan.

On the 19th of April, the caravan started and proceeded in an easterly direction. Their route at first lay over a mountainous country, inhabited by negroes called Mandingoes; who live in small villages, containing three or four hundred inhabitants each.

After awhile, they met with a great many Foulahs or Felatahs, who, as my reader knows, are negroes, but esteem themselves much superior to the Mandingoes. The Foulahs are chestnut color like the Felatahs of Houssa, while the Mandingoes are black. Many of the former live in mountainous districts, and subsist by keeping herds of cattle.

They are very devout Mahometans, and as

they believed Mr. Caillié to be a good Mahometan, they treated him very kindly. At almost every village, they brought him presents of milk, and showed great anxiety to make him comfortable. Sometimes the women gave him oranges and figs, of excellent quality.

One morning the caravan halted near a spring surrounded by trees and rocks. Mr. Caillié went alone to drink some of the water. When he got near it, two red apes came down from the trees toward him, and began to bark at him like dogs.

They approached nearer and nearer, and, as he had nothing to defend himself with, he became alarmed; these animals being very strong, active, and mischievous. But at this moment two of the Mandingoes came up, and the apes ran away.

It appears that the thunder storms in these regions, are very terrific, during the rainy

season. This commences in April and continues till September. As it was April when the caravan started, they were often visited by thunder storms. Sometimes the flashes of lightning succeeded each other so rapidly, as to keep up a continued blaze in the sky. The thunder was very heavy, and made the hills and valleys tremble.

One night, a thunder storm came on while the travellers were among the mountains, but the hospitable Foulahs permitted them to enter their tents till it was over.

The caravan at length arrived at Fouta Dhialon, a country inhabited by Foulahs, who resemble those already described. They appear, however, to be more civilized. They live in villages, and each village has a school They keep a great number of black cattle sheep, and dogs. They have horses of a small breed, and abundance of poultry.

The people of these countries, believe that

the Europeans live on little islands in the sea. They suppose, therefore, that they are very anxious to get possession of these regions. This renders the negroes very jealous of them. This notion is not wholly without foundation. There is probably not a king in Europe, who would not, if he had the power, subject these African nations to his authority.

The traveller continued on his journey, and at length entered the kingdom of Bambara. He describes the people as resembling the Foulahs in appearance. They are very gay, and spend nearly the whole night in dancing to the music of drums and hautboys. In their dispositions, they seem to be very gentle and humane. They are Mahometans, like the other negroes in this part of Africa.

The caravan at length reached Jenné. At the time Mungo Park visited this place in 1795, it was the capital of Bambara, and the king resided there. But at the time Caillié

was there that is, in March 1826, Jenné was not the capital.

Jenné is situated on an island in the Niger. It is about two miles and a half in circumference, and is surrounded by a very ill constructed wall of earth, about ten feet high. The houses are built of bricks dried in the sun. The streets are straight, and are broad enough for a country where no carriages are used; they are kept in good order, and are swept almost every day.

The town of Jenné is full of bustle and animation; every day numerous caravans of merchants are arriving, and departing, with all kinds of useful productions. The population of this place, consists of Mandingoes, Foulahs, Bambaras, and Moors. The number of inhabitants may be computed at eight or ten thousand. The people are generally dressed in white, and they have a neat appearance.

After leaving Jenné, the travellers proceeded down the river toward Timbuctoo. They observed a great many boats, some going up, and some going down, laden with various productions and various kinds of merchandise.

They were made of thin planks, fastened together by ropes. Some of these boats were one hundred feet long, and would carry sixty or seventy tons. Sometimes sixty or eighty of these boats were seen pursuing their voyage in company.

On the 19th of April, the travellers arrived at Cabra, the port of Timbuctoo. It is situated on the Niger, a few miles south of that city. The next day, the party proceeded over desolate wastes of sand to Timbuctoo, and reached that place about sunset.

Timbuctoo is situated eight miles north of the Niger, and stands in the midst of a vast barren plain, of yellowish sand. As far as the eye can reach, on all sides, nothing is to

be seen but the level desert, spread out like a sea. Mr. Caillié estimates the whole number of the inhabitants, to be but ten or twelve thousand.

This city is surrounded by mud walls, is of a triangular shape, and is about three miles in circuit. The streets have a dull appearance; there is no bustle nor activity. The people seem to be very quiet, and very indolent.

The king is a white haired old negro, much beloved by the people. He lives without ostentation, and engages, like his subjects, in business. He does not seem to exercise a very regular government, but is regarded rather as the father, than the king of the people. He has four wives and a great many negro slaves. His sons are merchants.

There are a good many European goods for sale at Timbuctoo. Among other things, Mr. Caillié saw some very beautiful French fowlingpieces.

As the country around Timbuctoo is unfit for cultivation, the people are obliged to procure their supplies of food almost entirely from Jenné. Yet they appear to be well fed, and very comfortable. There are a good many Moors in the city, some of them from Morocco and other parts of Barbary. These, by carrying on trade, amass fortunes in a few years, and return to their native countries. The people of Timbuctoo are Mahometans.

The trade of this place is a good deal cramped by the Tooaricks. These warlike people are the scourge of all the negro nations throughout Soudan. Their chiefs often come to Timbuctoo with a considerable number of followers. The people endeavor to appease them by presents and flattery. Sometimes they stay for several weeks, and the timid inhabitants are obliged to furnish them with the best of everything.

At length they go away, and carry with them great quantities of rice, millet, honey, and other articles which they have extorted from the people. These freebooters often attack caravans that are coming to Timbuctoo, or going from it, and wring from the people a considerable part of their wealth.

Having remained about eighteen months at Timbuctoo, Mr. Caillié attached himself to a caravan of six hundred camels, and set out for Morocco on the 4th of May, 1828. For four months they travelled in a northerly direction. They suffered very much, as all travellers do in the desert, from heat and thirst. But at length Mr. Caillié arrived at Tangier, worn down with sickness and fatigue.

Here he entered on board a vessel, and sailed for Toulon in France, which he reached in safety. He then proceeded to Paris, and then published an account of his travels.

Such is the story of Mr. Caillié. He is the first European traveller who has reached Timbuctoo, and returned in safety. But there is one thing about him, which is not to be approved.

He always travelled under the pretence of being a Mahometan, and an Arab. It is true, that by this means he was treated as a friend, but it is never pleasant to see a person acting the part of a deceiver.

I have now given you a long story about Africa, and I suppose you are tired of it. I will therefore bring it to an end.

After a stay of four weeks at Cape Town, our vessel was ready to proceed on her voyage. We therefore hoisted our sails, and bidding adieu to Africa, we stretched forth to the eastward upon the great Indian Ocean. This we crossed without any particular accident.

One day, as we were sailing along with a smooth sea, and a light breeze, we saw before us a large object, which appeared to be rising out of the very bosom of the ocean. As we approached, it evidently grew larger, and in shape, bore a striking resemblance to the back of an Elephant.

But here I am at the end of my book; I shall tell you the remainder of my voyage, and about Asia, very soon. Till I meet you again, Farewell!

Good Will Club
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